

A
Guide to Heaven
FROM THE
WORD:
O R,
GOOD COUNSEL

How to close savingly with

CHRIST.

Some Short, but Serious
Questions to ask our Hearts
every Morning and Evening, whe-
ther we walk closely with him.

And especially, Rules for the
strict and due Observation of the

LORD'S DAY.

John 5. 39. *Search the Scriptures.*

L O N D O N,

Printed for *Awnsham Churchill* and
Charles Brome at the Gun near
the West end of St. Paul's, 1667.





TO THE
READER.

Courteous Reader.

HAD the Au-
thour of these
Rules and Enquiries
intended them for
the Press, thou migh-
test have found them
set off with greater

A 3 ad-

To the Reader.

*advantage to please
a curious Palate ; but
being drawn out one-
ly for a plain People ;
they come close to the
Conscience , in a fa-
miliar vulgar style.
Read them with care
and consideration ,
and you will find eve-
ry line almost heart-
searching. Keep this
Book always at your
Bedside , and let
not*

To the Reader.

not a day pass over
your head, without
taking it into your
hand, and pondering
the things in your
heart. The first Rules
are of singular use to
bring you unto Christ:
The Questions to keep
you close in your walk
with him every day:
And the last Rules
are to help you espe-
cially on God's day.

A 4 Ne.

To the Reader.

*Never more need of
counsel about our
souls, the Lord help
us to improve all to
God's glory and our
own good and com-
fort.*

Farewell.

A

Michael

A Guide to Heaven

From the

W O R D:

O R,

Good Counsel how to close
savingsly with Christ, &c.

*Twelve Rules to prepare you
for closing with Christ.*

I. **W**ORK your
hearts into
a thorow and unfeigned
belief of the Articles
A 5 of

Directions to prepare
of your Faith: Believe
certainly and firmly,
without the least doubt,
that there is a great and
glorious God, that Je-
sus Christ is his onely
Son, and the alone Sa-
viour: That the Bible
is the true Word of
God: That undoubt-
edly there is such a
place as Heaven and
Hell. *Heb. 11. 6.*

2. Really believe, that
you carry within your
breast pretious and im-
mortal Souls; which
must be adjudged by
this

you for Christ.

this God to one of those
two places, there to be
for ever and ever, *Mat.*
16. 26, &c.

3. Assure your selves
that the last Sentence
will be past according
to your well or ill be-
having your selves in
this life. Every Man
shall be rewarded ac-
cording to his works,
2 Cor. 5. 10. Isa. 3. 10,
11. Eccl. 8. 11, 12, 13.

4. Account upon it,
that it's very difficult to
come to that Heaven,
and that the way to de-
struction

Directions to prepare

struction is broad and easie. Remember still, you have deceitfull hearts within you, a wicked Devil nigh you, and snares and hinderances about and before you, *Matth. 7. 13, 14. Luke 13. 24.*

Say, my time is short, my work is great, and my strength is small.

5. Certainly believe it, that Heaven is so glorious, that it's worth all your care and pains, be it never so much: and that Hell is so dreadfull, that

you for Christ.

that you may reasonably fly from it with all diligence, earnestness and speed; that it's better you never had been born, if you should die in your sins, and perish everlastingly; what a direfull screech will your soul give, if it goes out of your body into unquenchable Burning?

Heb. 11. 14, 16, 26.

1 Pet. 1. 4, 2 Cor. 4. 17, 18. 2 Cor. 5. 15.

6 Reckon, that all the troubles of this world cannot make a man going

Directions to prepare

ing to that Heaven in
ways of Righteousness,
miserable and wretched:
How sweet will it be to
pass, though out of a
poor tottering Cottage,
into a glorious Palace?
Out of a Sea of trouble,
and dangers, into an ha-
ven of Peace, Rest and
Plenty? Nor can all the
Riches, Honours and
Pleasures here, make a
man going to that Hell,
happy: What a terrible
Hell will Hell be to great
ones, that have spent all
their days in pleasure!

It's

you for Christ.

It's much to change a Palace for the dark silent Grave! Jewels and Deckings for Worms and rottenness. But what is it to have sweet singings turned into bitter howlings? Deckt and glittering rooms, pleasant walks, rich attire, delicious fare into dark Dungeons, unquenchable lakes of fire and brimstone? *Mal. 3. 15, to 18. Luke 12. 16. to 21.*

7. Seriously think, I may yet get to this Heaven, and avoid the fearful

Directions to prepare

full plagues and terrours
of Hell. If I shall come
to glory, what a God
shall I enjoy for ever and
ever? into what blessed
armes and bosome shall I
cast my soul? and if I
should go to Hell at
last, can I bear up under
the weight of God's ven-
geance? Well, yet there
is hope, God's heart, the
door of Grace, and the
Gate of Heaven, yet
stand open. How would
the damned in Hell give
thousands of worlds (if
they had them) for my

may

you for Christ.

may be! Heaven, Grace,
and Christ are offered,
and dare I refuse all?
Can I venture the loss
of soul and body for e-
ver and ever? *Heb. 10.*
30, 31.

8. If I miss of Glory,
it will be my own fault,
my damnation will lie
at my own door: God
can clear himself of my
bloud; his proffers of
grace are free and fre-
quent, earnest and real;
and shall I murther mine
own soul? *Ezek. 18. 32.*
Joh. 5. 40. It may be
written

Directions to prepare
written over my Grave, th
Here is one that destroyed cl
himself, that would go to do
Hell through mercies, fa
judgments and warnings. w

9. Debate the case w
with your souls solemn- w
ly, VVhat is there in sin, L
that I so much dote on? 3
what are my greatest tr
designs and projects in th
the VVorld? Can I dig F
the Pearl of happiness so
out of this Dunghil A
VVorld? Can I get the j
Houses, Lands, Honours, F
Friends that I aim at? f
and if I should, what are a
they?

you for Christ.

they? Certainly conclude, the greatest wisdom is to be wise unto salvation; and my best work is to work it out with fear and trembling, lest I lose it, *Prov.* 3. 13, 14, &c.

10. Then search and try your hearts, whether you are in the Faith, and your hearts sound in God's Statutes. Ask seriously, Have I the love that is sincere, the Faith that is sound, soul-saving and sin-killing, and life-reforming? Am

I

Directions to prepare

I sure my face and heart *su*
are really set *Sion*-ward, *fe*
and Heavenward? 2 Cor. to
13. 5. *ey*
sa

To this end *Quæry*. *fo*

1. Did I ever see *sin*. *bl*
dious, black and hellish? *in*
Defiling, and damning? *N*
Have I seen it in the *bl*
glass of the Law, bloody *h*
and killing? but in
Christ's blood, exceeding
and above measure *sin*. *ec*
full? Rom. 7. 13. *u*
y

2. Do I see in Jesus *J*
Christ a beauty and excel- *a*
lency: a fulness and all- *a*
suf.

you for Christ.

sufficiency? Is he the chiefest of ten thousands, altogether lovely in mine eye? Can I say, Oh thousands of Gold (if I had it) for an interest in Christ's blood, that cleansing, healing, peace-speaking blood! None but Christ, All is but dung, that I may win him, Phil. 3. 7, 8.

I I. Take it for granted, that there is no name under Heaven, whereby you can be saved, but Jesus Christ. All grace and mercy for this life, and that to come, must come

Directions to prepare

come to you thorough
the chanel of Christ's
bloud, *Acts* 16. 30, 31.
Acts 4. 10, 11, 12. Say
By sin I have shut Hea-
ven gate, and hardned
God's heart against me:
I have laid my self open
to all the wrath of God,
all the curses in the Bi-
ble, and all the torment
of Hell: and if I could
bring all the cries of my
self, and all my friends
the strength of the An-
gels, the riches of all the
VVorld, it would be a
nothing to make up this
woful

you for Christ.

wofull breach : Christ
alone can doe it.

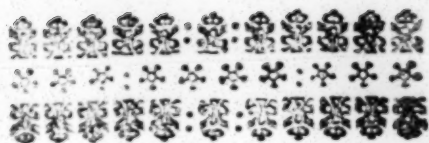
12. Believe it, that
Christ came to seek and
to save such as we that
were lost. That he is not
onely able, but willing
and ready to give forth
his rich grace. VVhat
made him leave his Fa-
ther's Bosom, put off the
Majestick Robes of his
glory, but love to poor
Souls? what made him
drink the dreadfull cup
of his Father's wrath,
make such loud calls,
such rich proffers; wait
and

Directions, &c.

and send ; be rejected ,
and wait ; cry earnestly
and wait long, but love
to sinners ? *Joh. 6. 35,*
37. 'Twas love to soul
made him give up his
body to be broken, that
pretious Box of Oint-
ment , which fills both
Heaven and Earth with
its sweet savour, and
pleasant perfumes.

Having thoroughly
weighed and believed
these foregoing propo-
sitions : then come to
Christ these 13 ways.

Direc



*Directions how to
close savingly with
Christ.*

I. **C**OME to Christ,
a poor lost, and
undone wretch, hope-
less and helpless, as to
an onely able, and mer-
cifull Saviour. Cry out,
as one sinking under
the Waves and boiste-
rous Tempests of sin,
B Master

Directions how to

*Master save, or else I a
perish. If thou wilt, O
thou canst, Heb. 7. 25. b
Say with Thomas, My fa
Lord, and my God, my th
Christ, and my Saviour; so
put the hand of thy th
Faith into Christ's pier. st
ced and bleeding Sides, an
John 20. 27, 28. Say th
as they, John 6. 68 th
Whither should I go, p
but unto such a Savi-co
our? thou hast eterna
life. Thou canst helpe
me out of the deepti
and miry ditch of myse
fins, and over the fyre
and*

close with Christ.

and fearfull gulph of
God's wrath, and canst
bring me into the blef-
sed presence, yea, into
the gracious Armes, Bo-
some, and embraces of
thy God of glory. I
stretch out the weak
armes of my Faith to
say thee. O stretch out
the strong arme of thy
power and mercy, and
come and save me!

2. Come as an hum-
ble, broken, and relen-
eeping Sinner, to an of-
fended Majesty. Come
trembling, with tears
and

Directions how to

in your eyes, and deep
sorrow in your heart.
Come as one vile in
the sight of God, your
self, men and Angels
As the poor Publican. I
not worthy to look up
to Heaven, smite on thy
wicked heart. As the
Centurion, say, I am
not worthy thou shouldest
come under the roof of
my heart. As the Pro-
digal, I have sinned a-
gainst Heaven, and am
not worthy to be an ho-
nored servant. Yet there
is mercy enough in my
Father.

close with Christ.

Father's heart and thy
merits, *Isa. 61. 1.* I have
let fly many poysonous
bullets, and bitter ar-
rows of sin against thee;
I have by sin, fetcht
(as it were) bloud
from thy pretious heart
afresh, though it ran so
freely and abundantly
for my sake; but now
a sight of thy pierced
side breaks my heart
with sobs and sighs.
My sins are now as so
many pricks in my side,
thorns at my heart, and
ropes about my neck.

B 3 3. Come

Directions how to

3. Come as a filthy, polluted, loathsome creature, to a cleansing Fountain of Grace. *Lazarus* in all his sores, *Job* on the dung-hill with his scabs and filth, *Job* with his botches, were not so filthy and abominable in the eye of man, as I am through the running sores and plagues of my heart and life, in the sight of an holy and pure God. I am more vile than the **Toad**, than the stinking carrion in the ditch.

How

close with Christ.

y, How doth this filth
ne stream through every
ng duty and mercy! I
a. drop the filthiness of
s, sin wherever I go. O
g. wash, cleanse and puri-
nd tie me in thy blood, *John*
so 15. 16. 42. Unclean,
le unclean! thy body was
as broken to let out thy
n. blood for my sake, and
of shall not my heart be
he broken to let out the
nd filth and gore of my sin?

re 4. Come as a bond-
an slave, drudge and vas-
in sal, to Christ as to a
Redeemer. Complain

w B 4 of

Directions how to

of the Devil's cruel
usage, and Sins tyrannising. Say, Lord,
thou hast paid a price
sufficient. Thou hast
redeemed me by thy
pretious blood, that is
more worth than ten
thousand worlds. Knock
off these iron fetters,
rescue me out of this
hellish Dungeon of
sin. I have now no
command of my head
or heart, of my tongue
or passions. How do
lusts domineer! *Luke*
4. 18. Heb. 2. 14, 15.
Romans

close with Christ.

Romans 12. 13, 14.

Here I lie staked down
to the earth by a carnal
heart.

5. Come as a sin-sick
soul to Christ, as to the
onely able Physician.
As sick persons, crying
out of an aking head, or
griping bowels. So com-
plain, O the plague
of an hard heart !
The galls and gripes of
a wounded conscience !
the wounds and stabs,
I have given my soul
by sin ! Here I am
sick to the very heart,
B 5 fainting

Directions how to

fainting and perishing :
O a drop of thy bloud ;
that is a Cordial in-
deed , the Sovereign
Balm of *Gilead*. These
many years , yea all
my life have I been dis-
eased with the bloody
issue of sin ; and all
others are Physicians
of no value ; but if I
may but touch the
hem of thy righteous
Garment , I shall be
whole , *Matth. 9. 20,*
21, 22. I come to thee
with mine Ulcers and
Imposthumes , to be
lanced ;

close with Christ.

lanced ; that the rotten members of my body of sin may be cut off.

6. Come weary and heavy laden with your sins, to Christ for rest and ease, *Matth. 11. 28, 29.* Good *Paul* groaning under the weight of sin, makes many heavy heart-burning complaints, *Rom. 7. 18, 19, and 24.* but yet in the 25 *verse*, he triumphs in Christ. Holy *David*, restless and disquiet, roars under sin, *Psal. 38. 1, to 9.*

Th 6

Directions how to

Those sins that were as jewels in your eye, yea, as your right hand or eye, are they now as millstones and loads to your soul?

7. Come as a poor, needy, and naked creature to Christ, as the poor to the rich man's door for alms. Come quite stript naked of your own righteousness, *Rev. 3. 17, 18.* Cry out of your spiritual poverty; Lord, not one penny of grace to help my self. Never a poorer wretch

close with Christ.

wretch came to thee
for mercy. Grace I
want; if I perish it shall
be at thy feet, begging
and praying I will not
be thrust away from
thy door. Behold want
of Faith, Patience,
Love, &c. Not able to
think, or speak, to doe,
or suffer. O let the
sweet gales of thy spirit
bring thy rich promises
fraught with incom-
parable grace and com-
fort, to unlade their
heavenly treasure into
my bosom. Give me the
key

Directions how to

key of Faith, that I an
may unlock thy rich w
Storehouse, and fetch if
what I want. re

8. Come as an hun- fr
ger-starv'd Soul for G
bread of life, thirsting h
and panting for Soul-re- d
freshing grace, *Isa. 55.* fo
Beg, cry out; Bread, in
Bread. In some Coun- v
tries through great t
want, they cry, Give
and cut me (holding f
out their arme) give and
kill me. Cry, Give
Lord, and strike me
Give me heavenly food
anc

close with Christ.

I and doe what thou wilt
with me. Say, Lord,
if as but a Dog, I may
receive crums that fall
from thy full Table of
Grace. Thirst and be-
hold in every bleeding
deep wound of Christ a
fountain of rich flow-
ing mercy. Each hea-
venly promise steapt in
that sweet bloud of
Christ by Faith, can af-
ford a full satisfying
meal of joy and comfort
to thy pining hunger-
bitten soul. Apply the
lips of thy faith to these
full

Directions how to

full breasts, to those o. ver, ever flowing wells of salvation. Say, Lord, open those pretious boxes of ointment, and sprinkle them on my dead, barren, parched, thirsty heart. May I have but bread, but a drop, 'twill be as a refreshing cordial; how sweet then will a feast of fat things be, Wine on the Lees!

9. Come as a foolish ignorant and backward Scholar to Christ, as to a great Prophet or School-master.

Say,
Lord,

close with Christ.

o. Lord, it's thou must
lls teach me, or I shall ne-
d, ver learn: I am dull to
ous understand, but thou
nd canst and dost teach
ny thy people to profit:
ed, Lord, that I may re-
ve ceive my spiritual eye-
p, sight! Thou hast many
ng an heavenly lesson to
en teach, as Faith, Pati-
gs ence, Self-denial, &c.
s! I am come to be thy
sh Disciple, I have a long
rd time been under the
to teachings of man, let
or me have the teachings
, of thy Spirit. Thou art
d, meek

Directions how to

meek , and not harsh. lust
Matth. 11. 29. affe

10. Come as an un-Sat
skilfull, trembling Soul. fou
dier, as a weak *David*,
strugling with Bears, de
Lions, and *Goliath*, with lo
Principalities and pow- as
ers. Come to Christ as ar
to the Captain of your p
Salvation ; say, Lord, fa
it's thou must teach my
hands to war, and my g
fingers to fight. It's t
thou must fight my bat- t
tels for me , or I shall
fall by the hands of these
strong and towring
lusts.

close with Christ.

lusts. What batteries ,
assaults and storms doth
Satan raise against my
soul! *Heb.2.10.Eph.6.12.*

11. Come as a con-
demned Malefactor and
lost prisoner to Christ,
as to your Advocate
and Intercessor : lay o-
pen your bad cause and
sad estate.

1. Your crimes are
great and fearfull,horrid
treason, and that against
the highest Majesty.

2. Your accusers and
adversaries many, sub-
tile, diligent and cruel.

The

Directions how to

The Devil, your own
heart, and acquaint-
tance can bring in black
bills against you.

3. The Law of God
condemns you, and
your doom is dreadfull.

4. The great God
your Judge, is highly
incensed, affronted and
dishonoured.

Now apply your self
to Jesus Christ, who
has undertook as bad
causes; say, Lord, stand
between the flaming
fire and revenging sword
of God's wrath and my
poor

close with Christ.

poor soul, 1 Tim. 2. 5.

1 John 2. 1.

12. Come as a willing servant to a good Master, as a Loyal Subject to your onely Lord and Sovereign, to obey, honour, and love him above all others, and that to the death. Say, Here I am, what wilt thou have me to doe? Here is my head to know thee, my heart to love thee, my tongue to praise thee, mine ears to hear thy voice, and mine hands and feet to doe thy

Directions how to

thy will. Other Lords and
besides thee have ruled
over me, but thou art
mine onely Saviour and
Prince, *Acts* 5. 30, 31.
Heb. 5. 9. I dislike none
of thy commands, they
are righteous, good and
reasonable ; but I find
fault with my own
wretched heart, that I
can no more heartily
love, and readily obey
them. Say, thy work is
as *Adam's* was in Para-
dise, a pleasure and not
a toyl ; as the Bee la-
bouring, sucks honey
and

close with Christ.

and sweetness, 1 John
5. 3. What sweet, soul-
ravishing work will my
heart make of praying,
hearing and meditating,
&c. when thou stream-
est forth thy graces,
those blessed silver
drops of heaven into
every vein of my soul?

13. Come as a poor
worthless Spouse to
Christ as to an honou-
rable and glorious hus-
band, come both for
thy wedding Garment
and matchless portion.
Come as *Abigail* to *Da-
vid,*

Directions how to

vid. 1 Sam. 25. 40, 41 ha
42. Say, Lord, here I am fl
meanly, yea vilely de d
scended, by sin a child in
of Satan, and thou art y
the Lord from Heaven ri
Ennoble me with thy y
grace, which is divine fi
and heavenly blood, far t
above the heroical a
blood of ancestors. Here b
I am ragged, decrepit and g
deformed through sin. c
cover my filth and na I
kedness with thy white t
spotless Garment, that
my shame appear not t
What is plaiting the
hair.

close with Christ.

hair, decking a filthy,
slimy carcase, to the a-
dorning the soul with
invaluable grace! Eve-
ry grace of thine is a
rich Diamond, a Pearl,
yea, far above. The soul
filled with God, is a lit-
tle Heaven on Earth;
and these graces are the
bespangling Stars and
glittering Lamps there-
of. Reade that notable
Description, *Ezek. 16. 3.*
to 14.

These rich Ornaments,
this crown, not of gold
but of grace and glory,

C

none

Directions how to, &c.
none but Christ's Bride
wears. Every morning
set your self solemnly
as in the presence of
God Omniscent, and
charge your heart to
give in a true answer
to these enquiries, as it
will account for these
and many other things
at the day of Judge-
ment before all the
World.

Seri



Serious Questions to
put to our Souls every
Morning.

Quest. 1. **H**OW did I
lie down
and rise up? was God in
my thoughts? And if so,
were the thoughts of him
sweet and pretious to my
soul? Psal. 139. 2, 3, 4.
Psal. 92. 1, 2.

2. In what frame is
my heart at present? Do

Quest. for Morning.

*I admire God's goodness
for the last nights sleep,
for adding more time to
my life : and am I heartily
thankfull? Proverbs*

3. 24.

*3. Can I really com-
mit all mine affairs to
God this day, to be guided
by his counsel, protected
and provided for by his
care, and to be willing to
be at his dispose? Mat. 6*

25. &c. 1 Pet. 5. 7

Psal. 37. 4.

*4. Am I resolved to
speak for God and his
glory, whatever it cost
me?*

Quest. for Morning.

me? In the strength of Christ will I not be terrified from, be ashamed of or grow weary in well-doing? Mark 8. 38.

5. Am I a child of God, and heir of glory? or a slave to sin, and a child of Satan! If I am God's child, must I not wear the glorious garment of Righteousness, that royal sparkling Livery of Heaven? If an heir of Heaven, should I not cast off the rags of corruption, and take heed of defiling my self with the mire of

Quest. for Morning.

sin ? Deut. 5. 32. Jude 23. What should I doe more than others ? Mat. 5. 47.

6. Who is the greatest deceiver ? if my heart, let me not trust, but watch over it all this day ! Wherein are the greatest dangers, the most horrid and wofull mistakes ? if about mens souls, let me venture the loss of all rather than of my pretious never-dying soul, Jer. 17. 9, 10.

7. What are mine implacable, potent, and soul.

Quest. for Morning.

soul-ruining enemies, but the Flesh, the Devil, and the World? Let me not pamper the one, hearken to the second, nor idolize the third; Let me beware of them, watch and be sober, Rom. 8. 8, &c. Gal. 5. 17, 19. 1 Pet. 5. 8. Jam. 4. 4. 1 John 2. 15.

8. Who is and can be my best friend, but God? Let me take care in all things to please him, fear provoking him. Let me love him with all my heart, obey him with all

Quest. for Morning.

*my might, and honour him
throughout all the day.*

Psal. 144. 15.

9. *Wherein is the
greatest vinity and vex-
ation, but in the world?
Let me then slight, and
not admire and adore it.
What is the sure gain and
most lasting good? Cer-
tainly godliness; let me
then prize, press after,
and live in it, Eccles.
1. 2. 1 Tim. 4. 8. ch. 6.
6, 7.*

10. *What is my hea-
venly work, but to run a
race, fight a good fight,
strive*

Quest. for Morning.

strive and wrestle? Can this be without care, diligence and watchfulness? 1 Cor. 9. 24. O that a vein of Religion might run through all I doe this day.

11. Whose eyes will be upon me all this day to observe head and heart, lip and life? Will not God's, the Judge of all the earth? and dare I sin in his presence? dare I so highly affront him to his face? Heb. 4. 13. Gen. 39. 9.

12. If I should spend
C 5 this

Quest. for Morning.

*this day in vanity, sin
and idleness, will it not
be bitterness and sorrow
at night? If I spend it ho-
lily and profitably, shall I
not pray with more confi-
dence, and lie down with
the more peace? will not
the testimony of a good
conscience be ground of
great rejoicing? Psal.
4. 7, 8. 2 Cor. 1. 12.*

*13. How would I
have this day represen-
ted at the great day of
Judgment? What words,
thoughts and actions
would I have then
brought*

Quest. for Morning.

brought forth ? Let mine
be such ; for certainly all
must then be laid open ,
2 Tim. 6. 11, 12. 17, 18,
19. Eccles. 11. 8.

14. How may I this
day order my secular busi-
ness with most wisdom
and honesty ; and for
my greater advantage ?
Psal. 112. 5.

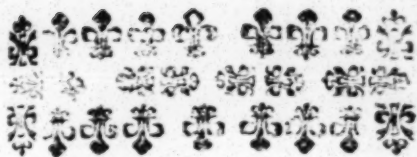
15. Am I fit now to
pour out my self to God
in Prayer ? Can I first
and chiefest seek the
Kingdom of God ?
Matth. 6. 33. Psal. 5.
2, 3.

Sepa-

Quest. for Morning.

Separate your selfe.
very Evening from all
company, and ask your
heart these Questions;
And wherein you have
been guilty, be heartily
sorrowfull, and beg par-
don: and wherein God
has enabled you to be
in any measure faith-
full, bless God and be
thankfull.

Every



*Every Evening ask these
Questions.*

1. **W**Hat have I
done this day
for God and his Glory?
what can I now look
back upon with com-
fort? *Mich. 6. 8.*

2. In what frame
hath mine heart been
all this day? what have
I desired most, Heaven-
ly

Quest. for Evening.

ly or Earthly things? Hath my joy been more in God, and in hope of Glory, than in Riches, honours, &c? Was my grief most for sin, or for troubles? What have I most suckt comfort from and lived upon; Creatures the Cistern, or God the Fountain? *Jer. 2. 12, 13. Hab. 3. 17, 18.*

3. What were mine aims and ends, in what I went about? Have I been sincere, and exercised a good conscience towards

Quest. for Evening.

3 ? towards God and Men?
ore Did I eat and drink,
of pray and discourse with
s, an eye to God's Glory,
ny or rather did *self* sit up-
or permost in all? 1 *Cor.*
e I 10. 31. 1 *Pet.* 4. 11.

om 4. What spiritual du-
ca- ties have I performed
or this day? Did I regard
a ? the manner as well as
3. the matter? out of con-
science did I doe them,
ne and not out of custome?
at Did I pray fervently,
e I reade with care and ob-
ci- servation, meditate so
ce seriously and thorough-
ds ly

Quest. for Evening.

ly to affect the heart? fo
Rom. 12. 11. Jam. 5. 16. or
re

5. How faithfull, di- 1
ligent and carefull have
I been in my Place and th
Calling? Have there o
been no idle hours in m
the day? *Rom. 12. 11. D*
1 Tim. 5. 13. Prov. 10. t
4. *1 Thess. 4. 11. ' ra*

6. What have been C
my company this day?
What good have I done t
to them? or received a
from them? Did I re- V
prove, exhort, streng-
then, encourage, com-
fort,

Quest. for Evening.

5. fort, or warn, as occasion was given, and need required? *Col. 4. 6. Heb. 10. 24, 25.*

7. How have I borne the troubles and crosses of the day? Did I not murmur, vex, nor sink? Did I not entertain hard thoughts of, nor utter rash words against God? *Phil. 4. 11, 12.*

8. VVhat were my temptations this day, and what my sins? VVas I not easily drawn into sin? Little overaw'd or restrained by God's

Quest. for Evening.

God's All-seeing eye, mercifull heart, or revenging hand? was I not soon proud, angry, &c? Did I not long continue in it, and have I yet thoroughly repented of it? What conviction, or mercy, or warning did I sin against? *Isa. 59. 12, 13. Jer. 8. 6.*

9. What were my mercies this day, and how was my heart under them? Was I affected with God's goodness, and unfeignedly thankfull

Quest. for Evening.

e, thankfull, and therefore
re- cheerfully fruitfull in
s I good works? Have I
ry, prized my health,
ng friends and estate? &c.
ave Eph. 5. 20.

en- 10. What have I
on- learnt this day? What
or more heart-affecting
a- knowledge have I got
3. of God and his glory,
of my self and my sins,
my of this world and that
nd to come? *Philip. 1. 9,*
n. *2 Pet. 3. 18. Col. 1. 9,*
ec- 10.

d- 11. What of God's
ly word have I remem-
all bred

Quest. for Evening.

bred or read, repeated
or heard this day? Was
any Scripture sweet and
good to my soul?
What promise did I
by Faith make mine
own? What particu-
lar command did in
any thing sway and rule
me? 2 *Tim.* 3. 15, 16,
17.

12. What graces have
I especially exercised?
Have I lived by Faith,
loved God with all my
heart and soul? Denied
my self in any thing
dear

Quest. for Evening.

dear to me for God?

2 Pet. I. 6.

13. Have I this day lived upon, loved, honoured and revered God the Father, as my Sun, Shield and Portion? Have I this day priz'd, own'd, and made use of Christ as my Saviour, Intercessour and Friend; As my Root, Head and Husband? Hath the Holy Ghost been to me a Director, or Comforter, a Quickner, or Confirmer? Have I cherisht
and

Quest. for Evening.

and not quencht its motions? *Psal.* 84. 11.

14. Have I been affected with the evils of sin or misery of others of Nation, Parish and Family, of Friends or Foes? have I had a pitifull heart, or bountifull hand to any in want? *Psal.* 119. 136. *Jam.* 2. 15, 16.

15. Have I shewn more especially love and pity to those that are of the household of Faith? how have I honoured those that fear the

Quest. for Evening.

no. the Lord? *Psal.* 15. 4.
af. and 16. 3. Hath a godly
of *Job* or *Lazarus*, though
ers. in rags and sores, been
nd. unto me as an Orient
or Pearl on a Dunghil?
pi. Have I not valued men
ti. more according to
in greatness, than good-
36. ness? *Galat.* 6. 10.

wn. 16. Did the Church
nd. of God and interest of
are. Christ lie near my heart
of this day? have I hearti-
no. ly prayed for the wel-
ear. fare of *Sion*; and mour-
he. ned when its songs are
turned into lamentati-
ons,

Quest. for Evening.

ons, and its glory into his
desolation? Do I prefer or
Jerusalem above my 4.
chief joy? *Jer. 19. 1.* by

17. Can my Family or
witness that I have tro
done any good for or to or
them? Can those that sh
best know me, speak 7.
best for me? Have I
been good as Husband m
or Wife? *Psal. 101. 2.* at
Ec. as Parent or Child, no
as Master or Servant? no
Eph. 6. 1, Ec. an

18. Have I wrong'd 7
no man in his estate, by 2
over-reaching him; in
his

Quest. for Evening.

to his name by slandering,
or back-biting, 1 *Theff.*
4. 6. in his soul or body,
by letting him fall into,
or live in any sin or
trouble? have I done to
others, as I would they
should doe to me? *Mat.*
7. 12.

19. Have I forgiven
mine enemies, rejoyced
at others mercies, and
not envied any ones ho-
nour, riches, or friends,
and coveted them? *Luk.*
7. 27. to 35. *Mat.* 6. 12,
24, 15.

20. Am I of a quiet,
D peace.

Quest. for Evening.

peaceable spirit? Have I not quarrel'd and contended with my neighbours? Or do I make up breaches and follow peace with all men? Do I honour the King, and obey Governours for Conscience sake? *Rom.*

12. 18. Rom. 13. 1, &c.

21. Hath my cloathing been suitable to my place and station? Hath my carriage been sober, discreet, and serious? Have I not been vain, wanton, nor frothy in my discourse or spirit?

1 Pet.

Quest. for Evening.

Pet. 3. 3, 4. 2. Tit. 1.

&c.

22. Have I scorn'd
and contemn'd the glo-
ry of the world, ac-
counting it but dirt for
Grace, and dross for
Christ? *1 Job. 5. 4, 5.*

23. Have I really set
death before me? My
life as a vapour, a sha-
dow? If I should die
suddenly, what preparation
have I made for it? Am
I sure, but this is my last
sight? If God should
shut mine eyes by death
how is it like to be with

D 2 my

Quest. for Evening.

my soul? Dare I lean
down with the guilt of Al
filth of any one sin? I
there any returning
from the Grave to ad
mend? No certainly
2 Cor. 4. 14, 16. 1 Cor. 15. 27
54, &c. Prov. 27. 1.

24. Can I tell how
great the day of Judg
ment will be? how
glorious and terrible
And dare I meet Chri
coming in flaming fire
with ten thousand of
sins to take vengeance
Can I hold up my head
Are my graces found

Quest. for Evening.

land of the right kind?
All is not gold that
glisters. Have I this day
sleacht, judg'd and con-
demn'd my self? *1 Cor.*
11. 31. 2 Cor. 5. 10, 11.
2 Thes. 1. 8, 9, 10.

25. Do I believe Hell
Torments dreadfull and
eternal; Its flames un-
speakably scorching; Its
misery endless and ease-
less? And do I not fly
from this wrath to
come? *Rev. 14. 10, 11.*

26. Have I ascended
in the triumphant Cha-
riot of Faith this day,

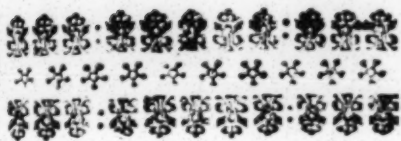
D 3 and

Quest. for Evening.

and beheld the new Jerusalem, God's glorious Palace? Did I live, love, think and talk as an Heir of this Kingdom? *Eph. 1. 18, 19.*

27. Have I not in all I have done, minded man more than God? Have I not minded only the cleansing the outside? *Eph. 5. 6.*

28. Dare I lie down this night without praying earnestly to God for the pardon of my sins, the blessings of the night, and the salvation of my soul?



*Directions for the strict
Observation of the
Lord's day.*

For Preparation.

I. **O**Rder all your
week business
so wisely before-hand,
that you may have no
unnecessary work on
God's day? that your
hands may be as free as
possible from wordly
D 4 work,

Strict Observations

work, and your heads
from worldly cares and
thoughts, *Exod.* 20. 8,
9, 10, 11.

2. Think seriously
what a weighty work
am I going about! My
week affairs are but
Toys and Trifles to this.
What are Sheep, Oxen,
or Shops, to Grace,
Christ, or Heaven? Can
I be too carefull and se-
rious in God's Work, in
Soul-salvation Work?
Surely no. How holy
should my thoughts be,
how heavenly my dis-
course,

for the Lord's day.

course, how earnest
mine endeavours all the
day long? *Isa.* 58. 13, 14.

3. Therefore prepare
with all your might,
search your hearts and
lives, *1 Chron.* 29. 1, 2.

1. Find out what your
sins are, to confess,
mourn over, and pray
against, *Lam.* 3. 20.

2. What the Mercies
are you want for soul or
body, for your Friends,
Families and Nation;
account this a Market-
day for your souls, *Rev.*

3. 17, 18. 3. What bles-

D 5 sings

Strict Observations

sings received, and what
thanks to be returned,
Psal. 116, 12.

4. Think with your
self, what good did I
get by former, yea by
the last Sabbath? Was
my heart then broken,
or warm'd with love to
God, and the like?
What did I then learn,
and how have I practi-
sed it in the Week?
Have I fully digested
by meditation, firmly
believed, and faithfully
obeyed the truths were
last taught me? *Isa.* 1.
11, &c. 5. Beg

for the Lord's day.

5. Beg earnestly of God, that he would help you to sanctifie a Sabbath, that this may be the best Sabbath you ever kept; that your heart may be more tender, humble and heavenly; that the out-goings of your soul may be more free, strong and fixed, and the incomes of heavenly grace and comfort more abundant; that God may reap more glory, and you receive more good than ever heretofore.

That

Strict Observations

That the holy keeping of this Sabbath, may be an earnest to you of keeping a never never-ending Sabbath with God in glory.

To this end pray especially for these four things.

I. That God may prepare a suitable word for your soul, that the Minister's mouth may be opened, and his heart enlarged, and his message full of goodness. That it may be the pure, plain

for the Lord's day.

plain and powerfull
word of God, *Eph. 6.*
18, 19.

2. That God would
fill his own Ordinances
with his own presence
and blessing : that he
would touch your
heart, when man speaks
to the ear ; Drop, yea
stream down heavenly
grace through these
Conduit-pipes, *Isa. 48.*
17. *Luke 16. 14.*

3. That you may
have the hearing Ear,
the seeing Eye, and the
understanding Heart ;
that

Strict Observations

that you may be teachable, willing to learn, and apt to receive what God delivers, *Jam.* 1. 21, 22. *Psal.* 110. 3.

4. That your souls Enemies may be kept off, at least resisted and kept down. That your hearts may not deceive you, the Devil divert you, nor the World distract or disturb you.

Having thus in some measure prepared your hearts for the Solemn work of this great Day;
observe

for the Lord's day.

observe and practise these following directions, as ever you hope to have the blessing of the Sabbath.

1. As soon as you awake fix your hearts & eyes heaven-ward; bless God that you see the light of one day more; especially God's day; wherein you may labour to have your sins pardoned and purged, and your souls furnisht with grace, and so fitted for glory. Call the Sabbath your delight,
Psal.

Strict Observations

Psal. 118. 23, 24. *Psal.*
59. 16.

2. Beg heartily of
God, that he would
strengthen you by his
grace to doe what he
requires, as he would
have it done; that he
would pardon your un-
preparation, bear with
your infirmities, accept
of your poor services,
and crown all with his
blessing, 2 *Chron.* 30.
18, 19, 20.

3. That you be fit-
ted for the holy and
heavenly work of the
day;

for the Lord's day.

day; affect your heart with some or all of these Ten following things.

1. With the Majesty of that God, whom you are to wait upon, *Psal.* 95. 2, 3, &c.

2. With the vileness of sin, and of your selves because of sin.

3. With the sweetness of Christ, and the greatness of his Love and Mercy.

4. With the excellency of that heavenly work you are going about, and the gain of godliness.

5. Wi'

Strict Observations

5. With the vanity of the world, and all things therein.

6. With the worth and high value of your immortal souls.

7. With the rage, subtilty and diligence of your soul's enemies.

8. Especially with the deceitfulness of your own hearts.

9. With the Terror and Torment of Hell.

10. With the unspeakable and everlasting glory of Heaven.

4. Care-

for the Lord's day.

4. Carefully, and conscientiously perform Family Duties, *Josh.* 24. 25.

1. See that your servants and children of age, waste not away the morning in sleep or idleness.

2. Cause them to joyn together in Prayer, Reading or any other Godly exercise, *Gen.* 18. 19.

3. If you have time, you may Catechise them

Strict Observations

them or discourse to them of any of those former Ten things, *Deut.* 6. 6, 7.

1. Inform your selves and them what a great and glorious Majesty and Master you are to serve, *Mal.* 1. 14.

2. What a blessed and heavenly work you go about; that it's heart work, *Joh.* 4. 24. and therefore hard and difficult work, and yet that it's pleasant and excellent, *Prov.* 3. 17. Ch. 8.

3, 34,

for the Lord's day.

3, 34, 35. O the fatness
of God's house, and the
beauties of holiness!

3. What an abundant and unspeakable
reward attends the
well-doing, even life
everlasting, *Rom. 6. 22.*
and how fearfull a thing
it is to trifle and be
careless in it, *Lev. 10. 3.*
Mal. 1. 8, 13, 14. Heb.
12. 28, 29. Acts 20. 9.

4. Exhort and com-
mand them to be at all
good exercises, yea,
watch over, and look
after them. Remember
the

Strict Observations

the fourth Commandment binds you to look to all within your care and power, Man-servant, Maid-servant, &c. If God had no more pity and mercy to the souls of Children and Servants, than many bloudy Parents and Masters, they must needs swim in the direfull gulph of their sins into utter destruction.

5. Repair to the publick places of Worship: If you have no Minister in your own Parish, go where

for the Lord's day.

where is the most soul-searching, heart-melting, and sinner-rowling Preaching, &c. *Isa. 2.3.*

Take these Rules with you.

I. Thoroughly weigh these four things.

I. Consider I am this day to wait on God, the King of Glory, and not on man; and therefore am I to come with all fear and care; what an infinite greatness am I to admire and reverence? What rich good-

Strict Observations.

goodness am I to love
and delight in? what
depths of wisdom to
look into? what infal-
lible truth to rest upon
and believe? What
wrath and fiery indig-
nation to tremble at?
God is glorious in ho-
liness, and of pure eyes,
Isa. 6. 1, 2, 3.

2. What a poor
worthless worm and
wretch am I? How
should I come craw-
ling, crouching and
trembling to the Throne
of Grace? What am I
but

for the Lord's day.

but ashes, but putrefaction, yea a sink of sin?

Isa. 6. 5. Job. 42. 5, 6.

3. I have not only an empty heart void of all good, but an envious heart, full of all mischief and perverseness, *Rom. 8. 7, 8.*

4. Yet what preparation have I made? Have I not spent more time and care to dress my Body for the eye of man, than to deck my soul for the Eye of God? *Job. 11. 13, 14, 15. Psal. 10. 17.*

E

2. As

Strict Observations

2. As you are going to God's house,

1. If you are alone fill your heart with heavenly meditations, hunger and thirst after the Word, *1 Pet. 2. 2. Mat. 5. 6.* Think, if God should meet my soul and bless it: O that he would!

2. If you are in company, talk of God and his Word, but without pride or affectation. Or hear others heavenly discourse:

for the Lord's day.

Discourse : but if they
are such as favour onely
of Earth , and scorn
Godliness , either re-
prove or leave them ,
Chr. 6. 17.

3. As you enter God's
presence really, expect
his goodness to pass be-
fore you. See *Exod. 33.*
8. to the end , *Chap.*
4. 67. Earnestly look
for the light of his
Countenance, *Psf. 4. 6.*
say , Lord , thou hast
promised to be in the
midst of thy people ,
Psalm 133. 3. Mat. 18.

Strict Observations

20. Bow the Heavens
and come down: Let
thy greatness awe us,
and thy goodness re-
fresh us. By Faith, be-
hold God in the highest
Heavens, surrounded
with glorious Saints and
Angels, and take heed
to thy self, *Eccles. 5. 1.*
2. and yet through
Christ, come with bold-
ness, and cry Abba Fa-
ther, *Heb. 4. 15, 16.*
Ch. 10. 19, 20, 21, 22

4. Make a Covenant
with your eyes, that
they

for the Lord's day.

they gaze not about to
see who is in the Con-
gregation, and what
Cloaths they wear, and
the like; Take heed of
a wandring departing
heart, *Matth. 15. 8, 9.*
Fix your eyes on the
Minister, your ears on
the Word; and your
heart on God, *Psal. 123.*
I, 2.

5. Be reverent in the
gesture of your bodies,
bow your knees as
well as your hearts be-
fore the Lord; if the

E 3 place

Strict Observations

place be not convenient W
for kneeling, stand up- and
right, 1 *Cor.* 14. 40. wi

6. Whatever Spiriti- ho
tual work you set a- I,
bout, doe it with all
your might and soul, he
Eccles. 9. 10. *Rom.* 12. th

11. As w

1. In Prayer while v
the Minister is confes- fl
sing and bewailing sin, E
let your hearts even
melt, bleed and break, is
Joel, 2. 13. When he n
begs Mercy, let your c
souls breathe and pant
after it, *Psal* 42. 1, 2. a

When

for the Lord's day.

When he returns thanks
and praise, let all that is
within you bless God's
holy name, *Psal.* 103.
1, 2.

2. If singing, let your
hearts make melody to
the Lord: take heed
when your voice is high,
your hearts be not dead,
flat and low. *Col.* 3. 16.
Eph. 5. 19.

3. When the Word
is Read or Preached,
mind, This is the Word
of God, 1 *Thess.* 2. 13.

1. It is his command,
and dare I disobey it?

Strict Observations

O that my ways were directed ! *Psal.* 119. 4, 5.

2. Doth God threaten these Judgments, and denounce these curses on sinners ? And must not I tremble ?

3. Are these his calls and invitations ? his rich promises and great love ? and shall I refuse all ? Doth God knock at the doors of thy heart ? Let the everlasting door thereof fly open, that the King of glory may come in.

4. While

for the Lord's day.

4. VVhile the Minister is pronouncing the Blessing, post not away, (a fault too common every-where) but hope, desire, and believe it shall come down upon you, *Psal. 133.3. Prov. 8. 33, 34, 35.*

5. Take heed afterward that Satan may not steal away the good seed sown; that the thorny cares of the world may not choak it, *Mark 4. 14, to 20.* Let not the VVorld get into your Mouth, as

Strict Observations

soon as the VVord is out of the Minister's. Some have been sin-sick when they hear a row-sing Sermon, when the VVord flashes Hell fire in their faces, a little startled; but it's as men are Sea-sick, vomit up the VVord and come ashore to the VVorld, and all is well again.

6. As soon as you come home, beg of God to bless the VVord you have heard, that it may not be as water spilt upon the ground, but that
your

for the Lord's day.

your memories may retain it, your hearts love, and your wills obey it, *1 Cor. 3 6.* That it may tear, rent and fetch bloud from your lusts, that it may fire your hearts with love to, and zeal for God; and that love may fill your mouths with good words, and your hands with good works, *Rom. 2. 13.*

7. VVhen you sit down to dinner, having begged God's blessing on the food of Soul and Body, *Matt. 14. 19.*

1. Eat

Strict Observations

1. Eat no more than will fit and enable you comfortably and lively to serve God, *Luk. 21. 34.* Many fill their Bel-lies so at this time, that they are fit onely to lay their drowisie heads on the Devil's pillow of sloth.

2. Talk of God's word sitting down and rising up. Let your hearts be Heavenly, and your discourse favoury, seasoned with Grace. A Table without some good discourse differs little from a Man-

for the Lord's day.

a Manger, *Isa.* 5. 12.

8. After Dinner, either repeat the Word heard, or read in the Bible; or in some other good Book; and call your own heart, and your Family to an account for what you have heard, *Dent.* 6. 7, 8, 9.

9. In the time appointed, go with your Family to the publick as in the morning. Think not half a day enough for God and your Souls.

1. If you come to the
Con-

Strict Observations

Congregation before the Minister, spend not away the time in idle imaginations, or worldly discourse, or any vain stories; but either meditate on God or his Word, or talk heavenly and holily. It's sad to see a Church-yard filled with idle persons, to hear nothing but of this or that person and family. The great Questions are, how Corn was sold the last Market-day? and what Corn in such a field? and the like. Poor barren

for the Lord's day.

barren empty Souls!
have you not better
things to employ your
heads and tongues a-
bout? Rather ask, what
a good word we heard
this day? How are we
now to provide for Hea-
ven? The Devil is so
busie in the Church-
yard sowing his seed,
that God's seed takes
little place and rooting
in the Church. Can you
doe the Devil's work
now, and the next
hour God's? I am per-
swaded, the seasonin-

Strict Observations

of persons hearts with vanity and frothy discourse before Sermon, hath been a very great hindrance to the efficacy of the Word and the good of many poor Souls.

2. Warm your hearts with love to God, and delight in the work; think not that falling down on your knees at your entrance, and tumbling over a few words, is a sufficient preparation. It's an harder work than most ima-

for the Lord's Day.

imagine, to fit the Soul
for God.

3. When you are
waiting on God, take
heed of drowfiness,
deadness or distraction.
Remember, a careless
heart, a drowsie body,
dull affections, and dead
services are not fit for a
living God. Think, do I
pray now as for Hea-
ven? hear as one hear-
ing God speaking from
Heaven? Is my heart
such as God may love
and delight in?

It's to be fear'd, many
car

Striçt Observations

can tell, where the windows and seats are broken, what spots on the walls and the like, better than what the Text, Doctrines, or Heads of the Sermon were.

4. Take heed how you spend the Evening. The heart is very apt to be vain after serious Duties. If God have set home any sin, shewn you any duty, run that over and over in your retired thoughts. *Psal. 12.*

10. When you are about your necessary worldly

for the Lord's day.

worldly work, as serving your Cattel, and the like; Take heed of carrying a worlding heart into the field. Turn all things you see or hear heavenly. If your Cattel stray, think, How apt am I to go out of God's Way! If you behold the Heavens, see therein God's power and wisdom, &c. *Psal* 19.1. Think or talk of the Word, *Psal.* 19.7, to 11.

11. Look on all you have done, as far short of what God deserves
ar

Striẽt Observations

and requires , what heavenly, fervent, zealous prayers doth such a God deserve, and such rich mercy call for? God is worthy of a better tongue than mine to praise him, and a better heart to love him. Could I have done all that is commanded, and never so well, I were but an unprofitable servant, *Luk. 17. 10.* What am I then, when I come so infinitely far short ; when every duty is filled up with abundance of
of

for the Lord's day.
of sin and fearfull fail-
ings!

12. Rest on nothing
you have done for ac-
ceptance or salvation,
but on Christ alone.
Disown all confidence
in your own righteous-
ness, and expect all the
blessings and promises
streaming to you alone
in the blood of Christ,
Phil. 3. 8, 9.

13. Before you lie
down at night, look o-
ver the days work.
Search back into every
hour and duty of the
day

Strict Observ. &c.

day. Humble your self,
and be heartily sorrow-
full for any miscarriage;
bless God, and be un-
feignedly thankfull, if
you have received any
good; and still look
out for more. Take the
shame of failings to
your self, and give God
the glory of any en-
largements, *1 Chron. 29.*
10, 11. &c.

F I N I S.

Books lately printed for *Henry Brome.*

Cardinal Bona's Precepts for a Godly Life.

The Guide to Eternity.

Dr. Du Moulin's Prayers.

Dr. Ford on God's Judgments.

The Reformed Monastery, or the Love of Jesus.

